

ALEXIEFF AND AVELLAN OUT

Sensational Resignations of Heads of Russian Naval Affairs Announced Last Night—Washington Place Chosen for Peace Conference

St. Petersburg, June 15.—The sensational announcement was made shortly before midnight that Grand Duke Alexis, high admiral and uncle of the Emperor, and Admiral Avellan, head of the Russian admiralty department, had resigned.

This announcement was followed a few moments later by an imperial rescript relieving the grand duke of the supreme direction of the navy, which he had held since the days of the emperor's father, Alexander III, when Russia resolved to enter the lists as a first class sea power, and to build up a great navy, the remnants of which were destroyed in the battle of the Sea of Japan.

Although from time to time since the war begun there have been rumors that the Grand Duke would retire on account of the savage criticism directed against the administration of the navy, especially in the construction of ships, the announcement of his resignation came like a bolt out of the blue sky. It was not preceded by any of the rumors which usually give warning of such an act. Consequently it was assumed that some sudden event precipitated it, and ugly stories are in circulation.

Washington, June 15.—The official announcement is made that Washington has been selected as the location of the peace conference. The announcement came in the form of an official statement issued by Secretary Loeb by direction of the president.

The choice of Washington marks another forward step in negotiations toward the ultimate peace instituted by President Roosevelt.

The official announcement of Washington's selection was in typewritten form, and read as follows:

"When the two governments were unable to agree upon either Chee Foo or Paris, the president suggested the Hague, but both governments have now requested that Washington be chosen as the place of meeting, and the president has accordingly formally notified both governments that Washington will be so selected."

This statement was supplemented by the semi-official announcement that "after meeting and organizing the plenipotentiaries of the two governments, if it should be found to be uncomfortable in Washington, may adjourn their meeting to some summer resort in the north and there continue their sittings until such time as the weather in Washington shall be more comfortable."

Important Visit to President. Washington, June 15.—Minister Takahira, of Japan, called at the White House at 10:45 this morning and was shown directly into the office of the president.

The visit lasted one hour and twenty-five minutes. He declined to divulge any of the details of his talk with the president. The conference was held during the busiest part of the executive day and everything else was held in abeyance during that time. Naturally, it is presumed it was of rather more than usual importance.

It is known the minister conveyed to the president the Japanese government's final refusal to consent to holding of the conference in Europe. The refusal of Japan was communicated by the president to the Russian ambassador and likewise cabled to St. Petersburg.

Shortly before 3 o'clock Ambassador Cassin called at the White House by appointment and was received by the president, who explained to him the nature of his interview with Minister Takahira and conveyed to him the personal assurance that the American government would do all in its power to afford the plenipotentiaries to have comfortable and convenient facilities for the transaction of their supremely important duties.

In view of the selection of the seat

of conference, it is expected that within a few days at most Russia and Japan will announce formally the names of their respective plenipotentiaries. It is deemed likely, also, that at the same time an agreement will be reached as to the time of holding the conference. It is indicated, however, that the proposed conference is scarcely likely to be convened before the middle of August, and perhaps not until a later date. It may be July 1, possibly later, before arrangements for meeting of the plenipotentiaries are finally accepted.

Prior to formal assembly of the conference, if precedent be followed, a peace protocol will be negotiated. Making of the protocol will take place before the declaration of a formal armistice. While it would be practicable to arrange for making the protocol at Paris or some other European capital, it is believed to be certain that the protocol will be drafted and signed in Washington.

Officially, this government will have little to do with the negotiations. The United States will simply provide a place for the meeting of the representatives of the two warring nations, and see that their comfort is provided for.

Want Japan to be Reasonable. Washington, June 15.—Pressure is being brought to bear upon Japan to induce her to fix the sum she will demand as indemnity for ending the war at as low a figure as possible under the circumstances. The payment by Russia of any such sum as a billion dollars would not only seriously embarrass the St. Petersburg government but would probably disturb the finances of the entire western world.

VETERAN OFFICER RETIRES

Gen. Gillespie Relieved by Successor of Chaffee

Washington, June 15.—After nearly a half century of active service, Major General George L. Gillespie, assistant chief of staff of the United States army, was placed on the retired list today on his own application. Gen. Gillespie is succeeded as Assistant Chief of Staff by Major General John T. Bates, recently relieved from the command of the northern military division, and the understanding in military circles is that Gen. Bates will be made lieutenant general and chief of staff on the statutory retirement of Lieut. Gen. Chaffee next April.

The Latest Statehood News

Washington, June 15.—Hope is expressed that a definite program framed recently by the friends and leading men of Indian Territory and the leading men in Oklahoma for separate consideration of the statehood proposition for Oklahoma and Indian Territory will meet with the approval and secure the co-operation of the president. In the past few days some strong representations have been made to the president. The effort, while not openly in this direction, is expected and hoped to have the effect of inducing the president to take up the proposition in his next message to congress. It is the desire not only of the leading men of Oklahoma and Indian Territory that they not be held back from the benefits of statehood because of the disposition toward New Mexico and Arizona, but information has come to Washington that organizations of reputable citizens and land owners have been formed in Arizona with the same end in view.

One of those who recently talked with President Roosevelt in this connection was Representative Charles Curtis of Kansas. Mr. Curtis' name has been associated with most of the legislation which has been for the benefit of the Indians in the southwest, and he is known to be the sincere friend of the southwestern country. With Oklahoma and Indian Territory united in a propaganda for the union

of the two into single statehood, and in opposition to the merits of their case being involved by the case of New Mexico and Arizona, it is believed some sort of action can be forced from congress at the next session.

In addition to the work which is being done here it is understood that the strongest sort of pressure has been brought to bear upon Speaker Cannon. It is realized that his personal opposition and his uncompromising attitude against an action which would bring in the states in the manner suggested at the last session of congress had most to do with the failure of that legislation. A strong showing is to be made when congress meets in the fall as to the natural resources of the two territories and of their fitness for statehood. The unfairness of keeping these two territories out of the sisterhood of states because of the troubles and objections to the other two territories will be put forward in its strongest light. Now efforts are being made to secure the co-operation of President Roosevelt, and, it is believed, with some promise of success.

Lincoln, Neb., June 15.—The populist convention to nominate a candidate for congress in the first Nebraska district was called to meet in this city today, but when the hour for the convention came no delegate could be found.

CONFLAGRATION AT DOUGLAS

\$3,700 Stock and Building Wiped Out This Morning

(Special to Review.)

Douglas, June 16.—Fire was discovered this morning about 2 o'clock in the front of the store of J. E. Kelly, at G and 11th streets. An alarm brought out the fire department, which succeeded in holding the flames to the one building. It burned so rapidly that all efforts to save it were vain.

The stock in the building, valued by Mr. Kelly at \$3,700, is a complete loss, as is also the building, one of the oldest in the city, and originally occupied by the Townsite Co., with its first office. The company owned the building. The amount of insurance carried is not known.

Mr. Kelly stated that his stock was insured for \$3,000. The manner of the fire is unknown. There was no wind at the time of the fire, a fact that greatly aided the firemen.

LEARNING FROM JAPAN

The Navy Department Orders Changes in Armament

New York, June 15.—Orders were received at the New York navy yard from the navy department at Washington to remove the guns from the fighting tops of the battleship Alabama. Orders have been issued also that the guns are not to be replaced on the fighting tops of the battleship Indiana, which is being repaired. It is reported that the guns are to be replaced by range finders, and that similar orders were to be issued regarding other battleships. News of the victory of Admiral Togo in the battle of the Sea of Japan is said to have influenced the decision to put the range finders in place of the one-pounders, which have occupied the tops.

The fate of the battle was decided by the superiority of the work of the Japanese gunners while the ships were still at long range. The department was informed that the aim of the Japanese gunners was due to the efficiency of the men with the range finders, whom the Japanese had placed in the fighting tops and were thus able to "pick up" the Russian ships at a far greater distance than the Russians could locate the Japanese.

Jas. Gresham was a passenger on the morning train yesterday bound for Cananea.

STROTHING IS CHIVALROUS

Observes Wedding of Swedish Prince Happily

Christiana, June 15.—Flags are flying today from all public and many other buildings in Christiania in honor of the wedding of Prince Gustave Adolphus to Princess Margaret of Connaught. The storking has decided to send congratulations to Oscar and the bridal couple, addressing Oscar as king of Sweden, and prince as prince of Sweden.

Christiana, Norway, June 15.—The minister of defense authorizes the statement that all rumors of mobilization of the Norwegian army and fleet are devoid of foundation.

IN HONOR OF OTERO.

Gathering at Santa Fe Rounds Out His Official Year.

Santa Fe, N. M., June 15.—Yesterday Gov. M. A. Otero completed his eighth year as governor of New Mexico, having served more than twice as long as any of his predecessors, and being the youngest man ever appointed to that position.

Last evening a smoker was given at the old palace in honor of the event, at which there were present prominent men from all parts of the territory.

STANDING WITH FRANCE.

Britain and United States Decline Moroccan Invitation.

London, June 14.—Great Britain, as one of the powers signatory to the Madrid convention of 1880, in answer to a request from the sultan of Morocco to join the international conference for the consideration of the Moroccan question, has answered that its preference is not to take any part in the conference unless such action would be satisfactory to France. The United States has taken the same stand, the two powers being in accord with France that such a conference would not be the best way of promoting urgent reforms in Morocco.

NO WITNESS TO TRAGEDY

That Cost the Life of Hiram Smith, Has Prosecution

KILLING IS ADMITTED

Self Defense Will be Plea of Coleman—Coroner's Jury Verdict

The murder of Hiram Smith in the Comet saloon wine room on Wednesday night created a great deal of interest and talk in the city yesterday. The former was displayed by a crowd of morbidly curious people who packed the court room of Justice Murphy yesterday afternoon to hear the proceedings of the inquest, and by lesser crowds that hung about the morgue and jail throughout the day. Those who gathered about the jail were mostly in evidence about the time of the inquest, the notion having gained currency that Coleman, the slayer of Smith, would be brought from his cell to appear before the coroner. He was not brought out, and those curious to have a look at him were disappointed.

Following the inquest, at which the jury brought in a verdict placing the death of Smith upon Coleman, Mrs. Coleman was admitted to the jail and had a talk with her husband. He received the news of the verdict of the jury from her coolly and without comment. Later, Attorney Baker, formerly of this city but now located at Naco, visited Coleman in his cell and had a long talk with him. Baker voluntarily wired Coleman yesterday that he would take his case. Coleman accepted the proffer of services, and Baker came to the city on the evening train. Baker will be recalled as the attorney for J. M. Johnson in the difficulties that were had last fall in the course of the Johnson-Prentz trouble.

The evidence brought out at the inquest yesterday failed to uncover an eye witness to the tragedy other than Mrs. Coleman. Her evidence will be of no avail to the prosecution, the law providing that a wife may not be called upon for incriminating evidence against her husband. The manner of her testimony yesterday demonstrated that whatever she might be able to do for Coleman she would do. Following her own testimony, given in a hardened and flippant manner, the woman took a seat next the jury and coached the Daniels girl and Hunt, the couple who went with Mrs. Coleman and Smith to the Comet wine room, in the giving of their evidence. At the close of the hearing she called Juror Buck, with whom she was acquainted, and whispered a few words. There was feeling when the jury retired that it might bring in a verdict exonerating Coleman.

At the preliminary hearing of Coleman, which will probably be held this afternoon, there may be some new evidence introduced which will upset a part of the story of Hunt and the Daniels girl, who testified yesterday that they heard the shot in the adjoining room which took the life of Smith, but did not go into the hallway until five minutes after the shooting, at which time there was no one about the body in the hallway, nor no one in the room where Smith and Mrs. Coleman had been. According to Liveryman Fletcher, who was not on the stand yesterday, Hunt, who he knew well, came to the O. K. stable immediately after the shooting and hired a rig to drive to Naco with the Daniels girl. While getting the rig, Hunt told Fletcher that Coleman had killed Smith, and that possibly he had killed Mrs. Coleman, as he (Hunt) had seen Coleman throw his gun down on his wife as he stepped across the body of Smith to gain the street with his companion. The testimony of the Daniels girl yesterday corresponded with that of Hunt. She has not been a resident of the city long, and has the appearance of an unsophisticated country girl. She said she was not aware of the character of the wine room when she went to it with Mrs. Coleman and the men. The sudden flight to Naco after the tragedy was declared by Hunt and the girl to have been because of fear of personal violence at the hands of Coleman, and not to dodge appearance in the case as witnesses. Both swore that Coleman came to them in a room separate from that in which Mrs. Coleman and Smith were, and asked if they knew where his wife was. They told him they did not. According to their testimony, that was the last they saw of him.

An important fact remaining that

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TEST OF THE ARCTIC AS A CURATIVE FOR CONSUMPTION. Expedition Goes North

Halifax, N. S., June 15.—In order to make a practical test of the theory advanced by prominent Arctic explorers and others that a sojourn in the Arctic regions will cure consumption the steamer Havana leaves this port today for a health cruise along the coast of Greenland. The steamer is in charge of physicians and others selected by a number of prominent Washingtonians who are backing the project and it carries as passengers a number of tuberculosis patients.

The plan is to visit certain sterile and dustless areas which lie under perpetual summer sunshine within the Arctic circle, for the cure of early cases of the disease. It is contended that the continuous day of the Arctic summer, with its healthful and bracing features, far surpasses any conditions in any other part of the world for the cure of pulmonary diseases.

The Havana will cruise along the shore of Baffin's Land and central Greenland, anchoring in various sheltered floids for the diversion and benefit of the patients. The return is scheduled for the latter part of September.

WOULD LYNCH NEGRO

Captured in Texas Following Attempted Assault

Waco, Tex., June 15.—After a chase lasting fourteen hours, Lee Robinson, a negro, was arrested near Bosqueville today, charged with attempted criminal assault upon Mrs. Alonzo Robertson, a white woman. Last night the negro entered the Robertson home and attacked Mrs. Robertson. A fierce fight followed, the woman's hair being torn from her head, her throat bruised and her fingers bitten to the bone.

Crowds from the country became so demonstrative that Sheriff Tilley late tonight sent Robinson to another county for safe keeping.

AMERICAN EXONERATED

Mrs. Brown Potter Knew Nothing of Embezzlement

London, June 15.—In passing sentence of five years' imprisonment, on Alfred Fossick, a lawyer of Maidenhead, Berkshire, who had been found guilty of misappropriating \$60,000, the judge said he was convinced that Mrs. James Brown Potter had nothing to do with the actions of the prisoner.

During the trial of the case of Fossick, the council for the plaintiff said that he had been informed by the prisoner that he had lent the money to Mrs. James Brown Potter. Mrs. Potter testified that Fossick, as her lawyer, undertook to raise from his client a \$65,000 mortgage on her property at Maidenhead. The money was required to work the Savoy theater.

Mrs. Potter said she never knew that Fossick had personally advanced the funds.

PHILADELPHIA COUNCIL ADVISED

Philadelphia, June 15.—In accordance with the request made by the committee on street railways of the city council for his opinion on the legality of bills providing for the repeal of ordinances granting street car companies the right to construct tracks on certain streets, Solicitor Kinney today sent his opinion to that committee, holding that the councils have full power and authority to repeal the ordinance because the street car companies had not yet actually taken possession of the streets.

Royalty Marries in London

London, June 15.—Windsor made rare holiday today, when the marriage of Princess Margaret Victoria of Connaught, niece of King Edward, to Prince Gustavus Adolphus, heir presumptive to the throne of Sweden, was solemnized in St. George's chapel. The royal borough was early astir, and donned its brightest guise in honor of the occasion.

The guests invited to the wedding went down from town by special train this morning. Included in the party were the various ambassadors and other members of the diplomatic corps, with whom were numerous attaches. All the gentlemen were in uniform or levee dress, while the ladies were all in demi-toilette, and many pretty costumes were seen.

Princess Margaret left the castle with her father, the Duke of Connaught, who wore a field marshal's uniform, shortly after the noon hour. The princess looked charming in her bridal dress and very pretty. Her gown was a cloud of pure white Irish lace, over white satin, strewn with garlands of orange blossoms and myrtles. The corsage was cut low and she wore the regulation court train.

BELDAME IS WINNER

Of Suburban Handicap in Comparatively Easy Race for Mare

QUEEN OF THE TURF

Made Before a Great Crowd at Sheephead Bay Yesterday—Second One

New York, June 15.—Beldame was crowned queen of the American turf when she won the twenty-second Suburban handicap at Sheephead Bay today.

The grand four-year-old daughter of Octagon and Belladonna, wearing the scarlet jacket of August Belmont, chairman of the Jockey Club, lowered the colors of James R. Keene's Delhi almost without being extended until near the end of the mile and one-quarter journey.

A great crowd witnessed the race. Two-thirds of those in the grand stand were women. The weather was perfect. Running of the first half of the double event for two-year-olds was preliminary to the Suburban. The double stake is worth \$20,000, and brought out all the young racers that had shown quality thus far this season. The Western colt, George C. Bennett, owned by Frederic Cook, won the event.

Then the crowd prepared for the decision of America's blue ribbon turf event. Delhi jumped into the lead at the start, with Beldame at his heels and Abdel close behind. Delhi quickly opened up the gap of two lengths, and held it throughout the first mile, when he began to lag, and Beldame drew up and passed him. Ben Brush relaxed his efforts once the mare came alongside and fell back. Hopelessly beaten, First Mason moved up with Proper at his side. As in all his races the Jennings colt came through the last furlong with a great rush and secured second place. First Mason was only a length behind, in third place. The winner was received with wild applause when she trotted back to the judges' stand.

Her victory was extremely popular. Only once before has the Suburban been won by a mare. That was in 1899 by the great Imp.

MASSACHUSETTS TOWN IS

Celebrating Its 275th Anniversary Appropriately

Medford, Mass., June 15.—This was a great day for Medford. It marked the opening of a four days' celebration of the 275th anniversary of the settlement of the town. Business is suspended and the whole place is a mass of color. Crowds have been arriving since yesterday afternoon and the city's floating population is larger than ever before. The celebration began with literary exercises in the opera house this afternoon. Tomorrow will be devoted to exercises in the public schools and Saturday is the day chosen for the big military and civic parade. Anniversary services in all the churches will bring the celebration to a close on Sunday.